

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Natural Resource Commission**

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**ITEM**

**12**

**INFORMATION**

**TOPIC**

**Mike Smith – Acknowledgement of Exemplary Service**

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The Department requests the Commission to recognize the work of Mike Smith, an Assistant Attorney General of the Iowa Attorney General's Office. He has supported and defended the Department's efforts for the better part of his career, and he will be missed when he retires early next year.

Over the years, Mike has been instrumental in reviewing our real estate documents, assisting in property disputes, drafting rules, and providing advice. He has contributed to this Department as a member of the team, getting out in the field with staff to understand their work, and has approached issues with a true passion for the natural resources of this state and a commitment to the environment far beyond his own career. He has provided guidance to enhance public recreation, has defended the Department in some high-profile, and some low-profile, lawsuits, and has made himself available to staff at a moment's notice to ensure they receive quality legal advice. Mike is an expert on Missouri River issues, and his knowledge of drainage districts has helped protect the State's interests in thousands of acres of Missouri River floodplain lands.

We will look forward to seeing him canoeing Iowa's rivers, biking Iowa's trails, and camping in Iowa's Parks, but we will miss him in the office.

Ken Herring, Administrator  
Conservation and Recreation Division  
December 13, 2007